

ILEX GLABRA FORMA LEUCOCARPA:
A WHITE-FRUITED HOLLYFRANK W. WOODS¹

In November 1954, a white-fruited specimen of *Ilex glabra* (L.) Gray was observed about 4 miles south of Marianna, Florida. The characterization of this hitherto undescribed color form of the species follows:

Ilex glabra (L.) Gray f. ***leucocarpa*** F. W. Woods, f. nov. A forma typica drupis albis, non nigris, differt. As in the typical form but with white rather than black drupes. Both the drupe and the persistent calyx are entirely devoid of pigment. Albinism also extends to the leaves, which are a distinctly lighter green color than immediately adjacent and normally pigmented specimens of *I. glabra*.

The specimen exhibits the typical growth form of *Ilex glabra*, being many-stemmed as a result of sprouting from rhizomes after being burned. Sprouts from rhizomes as far as 0.5 meter from the main clump also bear white fruits. There appears to be a single clone, covering an area of about 0.2 square meter.

A more detailed description of this new form follows: Leaf blade obovate, glabrous, lustrous, coriaceous, 1–2 cm. wide, 2–3.5 cm. long, margin remotely serrate at the distal end but otherwise entire; petiole 4–6 mm. long, round, glabrous. Fruit white, borne singly, 5–6 mm. long, 6–8 mm. wide; nutlets smooth; peduncle 4–6 mm. long; calyx glabrous, white. Twigs light green, angular toward the tip. A shrub 1.5 meters tall, similar to and growing in association with other specimens of dark-fruited *Ilex glabra*. Foliage is somewhat lighter than the neighboring specimens.

The habitat of *I. glabra* f. *leucocarpa* is identical to that of the typical form. Soil is moist and sandy. Principal associates are the typical form of *I. glabra*, *Baccharis*, *Rubus*, *Myrica*, *Pinus serotina*, and *P. palustris*.

Edge of woods about 4 miles south of Marianna, Jackson County, Florida, Jan. 20, 1955, *Frank W. Woods, C.E.F. 2*, holotype deposited in U. S. National Herbarium of U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. Isotypes have been presented to herbaria of U. S. Forest Service

¹ Stationed at East Gulfcoast Research Center, Marianna, Florida.

at Washington, D. C. and New Orleans, La., Gray Herbarium of Harvard University, New York Botanical Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden, Chicago Natural History Museum, University of Florida, Florida State University, University of Georgia, University of Tennessee, and University of Alabama.—SOUTHERN FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION, FOREST SERVICE, U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE.

VIABILITY OF SEED OF THE BLACK LOCUST.—In the early spring of 1930, on property now owned by Orland H. Soule, of Schoolcraft, Michigan, a mulberry hedge was set. In preparation for the planting a trench about eight inches deep was made. This brought to the surface some of the deeper soil. Later in the same season along a five-rod length of this planting 57 seedlings of black locust, *Robinia Pseudo-Acacia*, two and three inches high were counted at one time.¹

I learned that locust trees that had been killed by borers were cut down in 1867 on property belonging to Dr. Nathan Thomas. The Thomas family kept diaries and I had first-hand the information about the time and the condition of the trees when cut. The trees had been on the east side of a four-rod street; the mulberry hedge, set in 1930, was directly opposite on the west side. I have been familiar with these two homes for the past 60 years and no trees of this species have been there during that period.

At the time the locust trees were removed wooden sidewalks were used and yards were enclosed by fences. The locust legumes naturally lodged against the fence and renewal of parts of sidewalk and posts for the fence placed some of the seeds where germination would cease. Locust seed is very hard and sprouts only under the most favorable conditions. Some years ago to get locust seedlings for future fenceposts the writer soaked the seed for several days. Each morning it was stirred in boiling water.

The mulberry hedge mentioned proved a nuisance and was cut in 1954. If it had been pulled out some of the deeper soil would have been brought to the surface and a favorable opportunity afforded to discover whether any seeds were still viable after another 25 years. The only remaining project

¹ HANES, CLARENCE R. AND FLORENCE N. Flora of Kalamazoo County, Michigan. 167: 1947.